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8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
9	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  STATE OF CALIFORNIA
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 200 9-246
12	WILLIAM ARMAND FERGUSON 315 Meigs Road, #142  ACCUSATION
13	Santa Barbara, CA 93109
14	Registered Nurse License No. 460839
15	Respondent.
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17	Complainant alleges:
18	<u>PARTIES</u>
19	1. Ruth Ann Terry, M.P.H., R.N. (Complainant) brings this Accusation
20	solely in her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing,
21	Department of Consumer Affairs.
22	2. On or about January 31, 1991, the Board of Registered Nursing (Board)
23	issued Registered Nurse License No. 460839 to William Armand Ferguson (Respondent). The
24	Registered Nurse License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought
25	herein and will expire on September 30, 2010, unless renewed.
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## JURISDICTION 1 This Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the 3. 2 following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise 3 4 indicated. STATUTORY PROVISIONS 5 Section 490 provides, in pertinent part, that a board may suspend or revoke 4. 6 a license on the ground that the licensee has been convicted of a crime substantially related to the 7 qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the license was issued. 8 Section 2750 provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any 5. 9 licensee, including a licensee holding a temporary or an inactive license, for any reason provided 10 in Article 3 (commencing with section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act. 11 12 6. Section 2761 states, in pertinent part: "The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or 13 deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following: 14 15 Conviction of a felony or of any offense substantially related to the 16 "(f) qualifications, functions, and duties of a registered nurse, in which event the record of the 17 conviction shall be conclusive evidence thereof." 18 **REGULATORY PROVISIONS** 19 California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1444, states, in pertinent 20 7. 21 part: "A conviction or act shall be considered to be substantially related to the 22 qualifications, functions or duties of a registered nurse if to a substantial degree it evidences the 23

present or potential unfitness of a registered nurse to practice in a manner consistent with the

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public health, safety, or welfare. . . . "

### **COST RECOVERY**

8. Section 125.3 provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

#### **CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

# (Conviction of a Substantially-Related Crime)

Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 490 and section 2761, subdivision (f), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1444, as a result of Respondent's conviction of a crime that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a registered nurse. On April 2, 2007, after pleading no contest, Respondent was convicted of one felony count of violating Penal Code section 422 [threatening to commit a crime that would result in death or serious bodily injury] and one misdemeanor count of violating Penal Code section 243, subdivision (e)(1) [spousal battery] in the criminal proceeding entitled *The People of the State of California v. William Armand Ferguson* (Super. Ct. Santa Barbara County, 2007, No. 1217253). Respondent was sentenced to serve 90 days in jail, was placed on probation for three years, and was ordered to pay fees and fines. Respondent was also ordered to perform community service and complete a one-year spousal abuse educational program. The underlying arrest occurred on or about November 10, 2006, when officers of the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department arrested Respondent after he admitted choking, strangling, and threatening a former girlfriend by stating, "I'll kill you."

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# **PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein 2 alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board issue a decision: 3 Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License No. 460839, issued to 4 1. 5 Respondent; Ordering Respondent to pay the Board the reasonable costs of the 2. 6 investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to section 125.3; and, 7 Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper. 8 3. 9 DATED: 114109 10 11 12 13 **Executive Officer** Board of Registered Nursing 14 Department of Consumer Affairs State of California 15 Complainant 16 17 18 LA2008600633 19 60390699.wpd 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

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